

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 07184 220851Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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P 191245Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 540

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 7184

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP - CARAMANLIS, CONSTANTINE

SUBJECT: CARAMANLIS' FOREIGN TRAVEL

REF: A) ATHENS 6695

B) ATHENS 4836

1. AS DEPARTMENT KNOWS (REF. A), PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS IS SCHEDULED TO MAKE A TWO-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO ROME SEPTEMBER 29 - 30 (AND IS SCHEDULED TO REMAIN IN ROME AND CALL ON THE POPE OCTOBER 1). CARAMANLIS IS ALSO SCHEDULED TO MAKE AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO LONDON FOR TWO DAYS IN THE OCTOBER 8 - 11 PERIOD. HE HAS ALREADY VISITED FRANCE, GERMANY, SEVERAL BALKAN COUNTRIES, AND ATTENDED SUMMIT MEETINGS IN BRUSSELS AND HELSINKI.

2. LAST JUNE I SAID THAT I THOUGHT HE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO VISIT WASHINGTON AT SOME TIME IN THE FUTURE, PERHAPS DURING 1976 IN CONNECTION WITH OUR BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS, AND THAT AT SOME POINT I THOUGHT WE SHOULD RAISE THIS SUBJECT IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR HIM TO BE RECEIVED IN WASHINGTON SOME TIME DURING THIS BUSY PERIOD (REFTEL). I STILL BELIEVE THIS WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA; HOWEVER, THINGS HAVE NOT EVOLVED AS SMOOTHLY AND RAPIDLY IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS AS I HAD HOPED THEY WOULD, AND THE WHOLE QUESTION OF THE TURKISH AID EMBARGO IS ABOUT TO BE ACTIVELY DISCUSSED AND

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PUBLICIZED AGAIN WITH ALL THE NEGATIVE REACTION IN

GREECE THAT THIS IS SURE TO PROVOKE.

3. THEREFORE, I BELEIVE WE SHOULD DEFER FOR A WHILE
LONGER RAISING THIS SUBJECT OURSELVES WITH THE GOG (ALTHOUGH
THEY MAY HINT THEMSELVES FOR AN INVITATION AT SOME POINT),
AND THE PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE IS MERELY TO UPDATE MY VIEWS
AND RECOMMENDATION ON THIS POINT -- AS I INDICATED IN
REFTEL B. I WOULD DO PRIOR TO FORIEGN MINISTER BITSIOS'
TRAVEL TO THE UNGA IN NEW YORK.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HEAD OF GOVERNMENT VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ATHENS07184
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750327-0708
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750933/aaaabcrq.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 ATHENS 6695
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <23 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CARAMANLIS' FOREIGN TRAVEL
TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, TU, US, (CARAMANLIS, CONSTANTINE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006